

Annual Report of M.O.H.

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Runcorn Urban District.

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# Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year ending 31st December, 1940.

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Urban District Authority  
of Runcorn

ANNUAL REPORT

1940

BY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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Officials of Public Health Department:

Medical Officer of Health:

E. N. HILLMAN GRAY, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.  
Joined R.A.F., July, 1940.

Acting Medical Officer of Health:

JAS. CULLEN, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

*\*Senior:* ALLEN DALE, M.S.I.A. Cert. R.S.I., Meat and Foods.

*\*Additional:* A. DUCKWORTH, M.S.I.A. (Cert. L'pool), Meat and Foods  
Joined R.A.M.C., May, 1940.

Temporary Additional: W. HUMBER, M.S.I.A. (from October, 1940).

*(\*Also appointed Shops Inspector).*

Advisory Officer to the Public Health Department:

J. T. SHAW.  
Retired April, 1940.



**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Runcorn.**

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Medical Report of the Health of the town for the year 1940. It is obviously expected under present circumstances that it should be a short one. The health of the population, despite the very trying war conditions and various shortages, was maintained at a very satisfactory level.

The two diseases responsible for the highest mortality were: Heart Disease, 92; Cancer, 36.

Deaths from Notifiable Diseases:—

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	12
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	1

I consider that all the Health Services of the town were carried out by the various departments in a creditable manner, and the more worthy of commendation because of the extra pressure of work due to A.R.P. and depleted staffs. Whole-hearted and willing co-operation between all departments has been the rule.

I deplore the continued presence in our streets of the "open" rag-carts, and consider that they should all be covered.



The housing problem is an anxious one. We regret the number of cases of overcrowding, and it is generally known that all building operations were stopped owing to the war, and all we can hope to do is to relieve the **worst cases** of overcrowding when the few opportunities to do so occur, as when a Council house becomes vacant, the most urgent and necessitous cases have priority.

It will save time and disappointment to many applicants if the position is clearly understood, viz.: that we have a list of applications that must have prior consideration. The only exceptions to this rule would be that "bombed-out" families would rank amongst the most urgent.

The incidence of Measles constituted an epidemic, of which there is not likely to be a recurrence for several years until a new generation of children have grown to the most susceptible ages, as will be seen in the table of age groups given in this Report.

There were 27 cases of Diphtheria during the twelve months, and the Council had in force for the first three months of the year a scheme for the immunisation by local medical practitioners at the Welfare Centre, High Street, Runcorn. Of this, 529 children took advantage. From that time onwards facilities were provided for immunisation to be carried out by the local doctors at their surgeries. None took advantage of these facilities, despite exhortations both by poster and notices on the screen at the two local cinemas, through the very kind co-operation of the proprietors. The benefits were also emphasised by the School Doctor, Child Welfare Clinic Nurses and School Teachers. The advantages primarily to the individual, and secondly in saving expense to the ratepayers for the maintenance of cases in hospital, have been so emphasised by pamphlets, newspapers and B.B.C. announcements that no parent or guardian should be now left in any doubt as to their "DUTY" to avail themselves "FREE OF ALL COST" of such a wonderful protection against this dread disease.





The war has taught us—if we didn't know it before—that where propaganda and appeals in the general interest fail, COM-PULSION is the ONLY alternative.

The reports of water samples taken during the year have been satisfactory.

Regarding the removal of house and trade refuse, the usual practice of emptying the bins once a week has been maintained as far as possible with depleted staffs. This work has been considerably increased by the Salvage drive, which includes the collection of paper, tins, bones, scrap metal, etc., the amount of which was during the year 209 tons, and the value £768.

This work can be considerably facilitated by householders keeping the salvage separate, and of course there should never at any time be food waste.

The increase in the “ allotment habit,” with the production of an abundance of vegetables and salads, performs a very important function in helping to maintain such a high general standard of health, which it is a great satisfaction to Health Officers to be able to record.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CULLEN,  
Acting Medical Officer of Health.



## SECTION A—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

(a) Area (in acres) ... ..	2,904	
(b) Estimated Population (mid 1939) ... ..	22,470	X
(c) Number of Inhabited Houses (end 1940) according to the Rate Books ... ..	6,356	X
(d) Rateable Value of the District ... ..	£139,762	
(e) Sum represented by one penny rate (approx.) ...	£547	
(f) Density of Population. Number of Persons per acre (estimated population mid 1940) ... ..	7.7	
(g) Average number of persons per inhabited house. (Estimated population mid 1940) ... ..	3.4	

## INSURED POPULATION.

Year		<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>	Total
1940	...	8,349	762	1,186	10,297
1939	...	8,160	559	1,035	9,754

## NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED.

			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Juv.</i>	Total
Wholly unemployed	Dec. 31, 1940		30	29	47	106
"	"	" 1939	117	103	33	253
Temp. stopped	"	1940	1	2	—	3
"	"	" 1939	3	—	—	3
Normally in casual employment	"	1940	—	—	—	—
"	"	" 1939	2	—	—	2
Total ... ..	Dec. 31, 1940		31	31	47	109
"	"	" 1939	122	103	33	258



## VITAL STATISTICS.

				Total	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS ...	Legitimate	...	...	399	181	218
	Illegitimate	...	...	14	8	6
				<hr/> 413	<hr/> 189	<hr/> 224

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 18.3.

STILL BIRTHS ...	...	...	...	...	16	8	8
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births: 19.00.							

DEATHS ...	...	...	...	...	...	318	178	140
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 14.15.								

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

					Deaths	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births
No. 29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	2	4.65
No. 30	Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Total	...	...	...	...	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 4.65

## Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births (23 deaths)	Death Rate	55.69
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	51.28
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	71.4

Deaths from <b>Cancer</b> (all ages)	...	...	...	36
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

## Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment.

The causes of the highest mortality were :—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	92
Cancer	...	...	...	36



There were 139 deaths of persons over 65 years of age.

					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	Total
From 65-69	Number of deaths	...	...	...	22	16	38
" 70-79	"	"	...	...	40	32	72
" 80-89	"	"	...	...	16	19	35
" 90-99	"	"	...	...	1	3	4
" 100 years	"	"	...	...	-	-	-

#### Causes of Sickness or Invalidity.

There have been no cases of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in this area during the year, and there is no evidence, statistical or otherwise, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE RATES.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Mid-Year Population</i>	<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Adjusted Death Rate * *</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality</i>
1940	22,470	19.0	14.15	15.98	55.69
1939	23,440	17.1	11.04	12.36	32.9
1938	23,340	15.2	11.01	12.33	58.9
1937	25,220	15.5	13.17	14.7	66.3
1936	22,903	15.3	11.3	12.6	45.0

\* \* Adjusted Death Rate arrived at by application of Areal Comparability Factor, viz :— 1.13.

Inquests were held regarding 22 deaths, 7 of which were inward transfers.

## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

#### (a) Laboratory Facilities

Runcorn is fortunate in that the Biological Institute of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., is established in the town. The Institute examines pathological specimens and supplies serum for cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, and anthrax.





(b) **Ambulance Facilities** are as follows:—

Three Public (exclusive of those detailed for A.R.P. duties.

(c) **Home Nursing.**

Runcorn District Nursing Association—3 Nurses and 1 Relief Nurse.

Number of Midwives practising in the District—5.

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

Child Welfare, etc. are under the direct control of the County Council.

**Hospitals.**

The Runcorn Victoria Memorial Hospital is a Voluntary hospital, with 32 beds, staffed by the local Medical Practitioners and Visiting Consulting Surgeons from Liverpool.

It is primarily for the reception of surgical and accident cases.

(b) **Smallpox Hospital.**

The Council has an arrangement with Warrington Corporation for the accommodation of Smallpox cases.

(c) **Runcorn Isolation Hospital** is at present closed, the cases being accommodated in the Runcorn Rural Isolation Hospital at Dutton.

**Puerperal Cases** are provided for by the County Council.

**Public Assistance Hospital** is situated at Dutton.

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## SECTION C.

## Sanitary Circumstances.

## 1. (I)—WATER.

The water supply consists of a mixture of soft water from Lake Vyrnwy and hard Runcorn well-water. It is frequently tested, both Chemically and Bacteriologically, and for this purpose samples are taken approximately eight times a year. The analysts reports were very favourable.

## (II)—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Most of the sewers empty into one large intercepting sewer which passes under the Manchester Ship Canal at No Man's Land. Another sewer dips under the Ship Canal at the Westerly boundary of the District and is discharged similarly into the Mersey estuary.

There were no extensions of sewers during the year under review.

## 2. (I)—CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With the exception of 15 pail closets, all houses are on the water carriage system.

## (II)—PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of house refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district on a weekly basis, and disposal is by tipping.

The collection of salvage material has developed considerably during the year.

## iii.—Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following tabular statement is furnished by the Senior Sanitary Inspector under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935, or Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order 1926 :—

Inspections made for all purposes	...	...	...	4,153
Nuisances dealt with	...	...	...	643
Notices served (Informal, re 284 houses)	...	...	...	243



## SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Description			
Bakehouses (Factories) ...	...	...	24
„ (Underground) ...	...	...	1
Canal Boats ...	...	...	342
Common Lodging House ...	...	...	3
Complaints ...	...	...	227
Cowsheds ...	...	...	12
Dairies and Milkshops ...	...	...	49
Factories ...	...	...	16
Food Shops ...	...	...	58
Houses Inspected ...	...	...	703
Infectious Diseases ...	...	...	596
Licensed Music Halls ...	...	...	10
Manure Receptacles ...	...	...	21
Middens and Earth Closets ...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	668
Nuisance Abatement ...	...	...	423
Offensive Trades ...	...	...	2
Overcrowding ...	...	...	54
Owners and Agents Interviewed	...	...	130
Piggeries ...	...	...	5
Public Conveniences ...	...	...	32
Rats and Mice Destruction ...	...	...	14
Schools' Conveniences ...	...	...	13
Shops ...	...	...	151
Slaughterhouses ...	...	...	467
Smoke Abatement ...	...	...	8
Vans, Tents, etc. ...	...	...	16
Water Closets and Drains ...	...	...	92
Water Samples (Domestic) ...	...	...	8
„ (Baths) ...	...	...	4
Total			4153

## iv. Shops.

During the year 151 inspections of shops were made, and apart from a few minor contraventions, were found to be in a satisfactory condition in relation to ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation.

The provisions of the Employment of Young Persons Act and the Shops (Closing Hours) Act were observed fairly generally, and apart from a number of warnings given no other action was deemed necessary.



#### v. Smoke Abatement.

During the year, 8 observations have been made for the purpose of smoke abatement.

It has not been found necessary to take any legal proceedings.

#### vi. Swimming Baths.

The Urban District Council maintain a Swimming Bath which is supplied with water partly from a spring and partly from the Town's mains which is passed through a filtration plant charged with chlorine. It is tested for its purity and chlorine content at least once a month during the season, and its physical characteristics are very satisfactory.

#### vii. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The following particulars are given of action taken for the eradication of bed bugs :—

		<i>Infested.</i>	<i>Disinfested.</i>
1.	(a) Number of Council houses ...	2	2
	(b) Number of other houses ...	10	10
2.	The methods employed for freeing infested houses include application of strong vermicides and fumigants of high potency :—		
	(1) Vermicine.	(2) Zaldecide.	
	(3) Slatford Insecticide made by British Fumigants, Ltd.		

#### 4.—Schools.

During the year, inspections of public elementary schools have been made ; the sanitary accommodation has been considerably improved, and the water supply is good and adequate in general.





## Factories Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.					Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical Power...	...				24	4	
Factories without Mechanical Power	...				17	—	
Other Buildings (Building Engineering Construction)	...	...	...	...	—	—	
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	41	4	Nil
2.—DEFECTS FOUND.					Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	...				4	4	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	...						
Defective	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	5	5	Nil
Number of Outworkers' Lists :— 2 Contractors. 4 Outworkers.							
Number of Underground Bakehouses in use :— ONE.							

All Factories are entered in the register kept for the purpose.

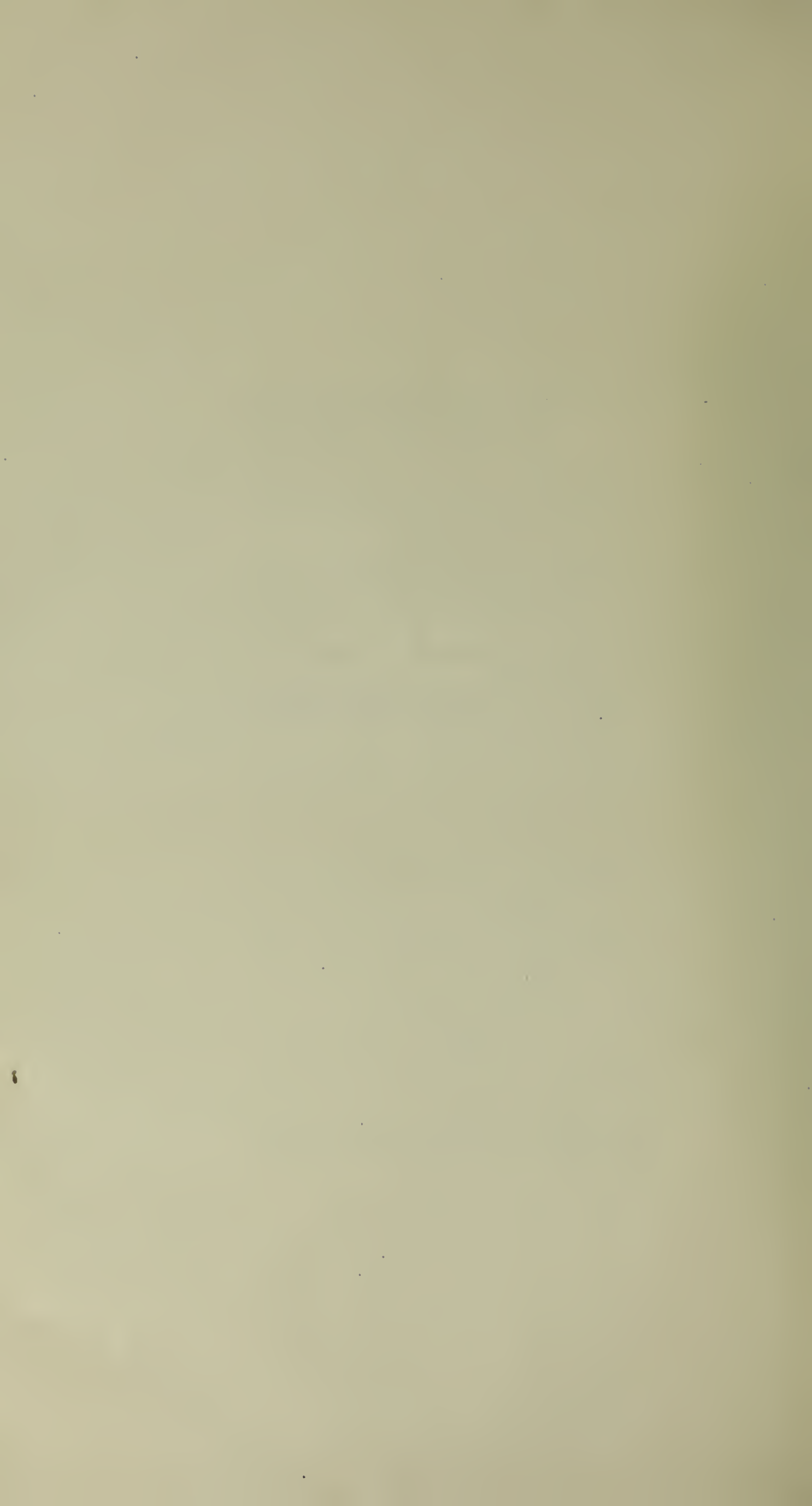
## SECTION D.

## Housing.

Number of inhabited houses in Urban District, 31st December, 1940	...	...	...	...	...	6,356
Density of houses (number of houses per acre)	...	...				2.15
Number of new houses erected during 1940						
By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	36
Number of houses owned by Local Authority	...	...				302
I—Inspection of dwelling-houses during 1940 :—						
1 (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)...	...	...	...	...	...	703
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose						1,083



2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	Nil
4	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	286
II—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	218
III—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—		
(A)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	Nil
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	9
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
	(a) By owners...	9
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	Nil
(D)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	Nil



#### 4.—Housing Act 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	33
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	33
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	249
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	10
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	78
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil

### SECTION E.

#### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

##### (a) MILK SUPPLY :—

During the year, 61 inspections have been made of dairies and milkshops, and inspections of farms in the district have periodically been carried out.

There are 110 Purveyors of milk registered with the Local Authority.

The premises inspected were invariably found in a clean condition.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Licences have been granted under the above Order as follows :

To sell "Accredited Milk" ... ..	4
„ „ „ Pasteurised Milk ... ..	1
	<hr/>
	5

##### (b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :—

(1) During the year 58 visits were made to premises where foods are prepared or sold, and these were found to be satisfactory.



(2) The taking over of the Abattoir by the Ministry of Food as a slaughtering centre to supply the needs of 60 shops in the Runcorn Urban and Rural areas, has involved considerable outlay by the Council in order to equip the Abattoir with adequate facilities for the carrying out of slaughtering on a large scale.

The premises have been reconstructed and enlarged; extra buildings have been erected for storage purposes; office accommodation has been provided, and new water heaters have been installed. The alterations made and the facilities offered are of a permanent character, and satisfactorily meet the requirements of the Ministry of Food.

The establishment of the Government Centre has increased considerably the work of inspection, both ante-mortem and post-mortem, and during the year 467 visits were made for the purpose of meat inspection.

The appended table describes the total number of animals slaughtered and the percentage of animals diseased and condemned.

The amount of meat and offals condemned was:—

For Tuberculosis.	For other causes.	Total.
13 tons 14 cwts.	6 tons 17 cwts.	20 tons 11 cwts.

In addition, 14 cwts. was taken from shops and condemned for bone-taint, making the total of meat condemned 21 tons 5 cwts.





## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	<i>Cattle exclud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number Killed ...	1784	777	540	13895	2205
Number Inspected ...	1784	777	540	13895	2205
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	4	8	17	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	227	325	Nil	385	39
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tubercu- losis ... ..	12.78%	42.34%	1.48%	2.86%	1.95%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	5	25	1	Nil	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	169	239	Nil	Nil	220
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuber- culosis ... ..	9.77%	33.97%	.18%	Nil	9.88%

A. DALE, Senior Sanitary Inspector and  
Meat and Food Inspector.



## Adulteration, etc.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT.

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his department in the Runcorn Urban District under the Foods and Drugs Act during the year 1940 :—

Samples obtained during year ended 31st December, 1940.

<i>Name of sample.</i>	<i>No. obtained.</i>	<i>No. adulterated.</i>
Beans, tinned ... ..	1	—
Beef, Suet, Shredded ... ..	2	—
Black Puddings ... ..	1	—
Camphorated Oil ... ..	1	—
Cheese, Cheshire ... ..	1	—
Cocoa ... ..	1	—
Coffee ... ..	1	—
Coffee and Chicory ... ..	1	—
Cream, tinned ... ..	1	—
Dripping ... ..	1	—
Flour ... ..	1	—
Fruit Salad, tinned ... ..	1	—
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules ... ..	1	—
Ham & Tongue Paste ... ..	1	—
Herrings, tinned ... ..	1	—
Iodine, tincture of ... ..	1	—
Jam ... ..	2	1
Lard ... ..	1	—
Linseed Meal ... ..	1	—
Luncheon Sausage ... ..	1	—
Milk ... ..	34	4
Milk, condensed ... ..	2	—
Pepper ... ..	1	—
Phenol Ointment ... ..	1	—
Pineapple, tinned ... ..	1	—
Quinine, Ammon. Tinc. of, tablets	1	1
Saccharin Tablets ... ..	1	—
Sago ... ..	1	—
Sal Volatile ... ..	1	—
Sardines, tinned ... ..	1	—
Sausages ... ..	2	—
Tea ... ..	1	—
Totals ... ..	69	6



Of the 34 samples of Milk taken, four samples did not reach the required standard. In one case, legal proceedings were taken for extraneous water, and a penalty was imposed on the producer.

## SECTION F.

### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

The prevailing varieties of notifiable diseases during the year were mainly confined to Diphtheria and Measles.

As stated at the beginning of the Report, every encouragement has been given to parents and guardians to have the "free" immunisation of children carried out, but the deficiency in a voluntary scheme of this nature is well known.

### Immunisation Scheme.

During the year ending 31st December, 1941, 24 sessions have been held. The medical practitioners have carried out the injections in accordance with the rota scheme with the greatest keenness. 529 injections have been given; of this number, 235 children have received two injections (470 injections) and 59 children one injection only.

### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1940.

The following table includes particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases in the area during the year 1940 :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified *	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	8	8	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	9	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	27	27	2
Erysipelas ... ..	6	2	—
Measles ... ..	499	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	19	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	2	—



\* An analysis of the total notified cases under the following age-groups are given below :—

Disease	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 to over
Scarlet Fever ...	8	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	2	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	9	—	3	1	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	27	—	—	—	2	3	10	5	3	3	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—
Measles ...	499	16	29	45	57	65	253	14	12	8	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	19	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	3	3	4	3	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

Antitoxin is provided free to Medical Practitioners and can be obtained at any time from the local laboratories of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb. In few diseases is prompt treatment as necessary as in Diphtheria.

Swabs from suspected cases of Diphtheria are examined at Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb's laboratory.

Swabs examined during 1940 :—

(Positive, 27. Negative, 151).

#### Runcorn Urban District.

#### TOTAL DEATHS, 1939.

CAUSES OF DEATH						Males	Females
All Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	178	140
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
6. Tuberculosis, Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	2	8
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
9. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	4	1





CAUSES OF DEATH					Males	Females
10.	Measles	...	...	...	1	—
11.	Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
12.	Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
13.	Cancer of b. cav. and Oesoph. (M.)	...	...	...	...	...
	Uterus (F.)	...	...	...	4	1
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	5	1
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	—	4
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	12	9
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1
18.	Intra-Cran. Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	19	10
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	50	42
20.	Other Disease of Circ. System	...	...	...	3	7
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	19	16
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	13	10
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	4	1
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	1	1
25.	Diarrhoea, under 2 years	...	...	...	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	2	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	—	—
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	7	2
29.	Puerperal and Post-abort. Sepsis	...	...	...	—	2
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	2	3
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries,	...	...	...	...	...
	Infant Disease	...	...	...	5	2
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	1	—
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	6	2
36.	All other Causes	...	...	...	12	13
Deaths of Infants under 1 year						
{					Total ...	12
{					Legitimate ...	11
{					Illegitimate...	10
{					...	1
LIVE BIRTHS						
{					Total ...	189
{					Legitimate ...	224
{					Illegitimate...	218
{					...	6
STILLBIRTHS						
{					Total ...	8
{					Legitimate ...	8
{					Illegitimate...	8
{					...	—
POPULATION					Estimated	22,470
Comparability Factor—1.13.						



Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1940

England & Wales, London, 126 Great Towns & 148 Smaller Towns  
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Run- corn Urban District	Eng- land and Wales	126 County Boro's & Great Towns incl'dng. London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admini- strative County
Rates per 1,000 Population					
BIRTHS—					
Live ... ..	18.3	14.6	16.0	15.7	13.7
Still ... ..	0.71	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44
DEATHS—					
All Causes ... ..	14.15	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8
Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01
Influenza ... ..	0.02	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Notifications—					
Enteric ... ..	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.06
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.13	0.32	0.33	0.29	0.28
Scarlet Fever ...	0.35	1.63	1.53	1.57	0.82
Whooping Cough ...	0.4	1.34	1.29	1.35	0.22
Diphtheria ... ..	1.2	1.16	1.29	1.21	0.61
Erysipelas ... ..	0.26	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.35
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	22.2	10.24	9.23	9.99	1.78
Pneumonia ... ..	0.84	1.20	1.37	1.00	0.87
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	55.69	53	61	54	50
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age... ..	0.00	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)					
MATERNAL MORTALITY—					
Puerperal Infection (No. 147) ... ..	4.65	0.52	Not available		
Others ... ..	0.00	1.64			
Total ... ..	4.65	2.16			
Notifications—					
Puerperal Fever ...	4.8	11.96	13.90	9.73	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	



## (b) Tuberculosis.

No person employed in the milk trade was found suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, nor was it found necessary to compulsorily remove to hospital any person suffering from Tuberculosis.

Particulars of the 20 new cases of Tuberculosis and of the 12 deaths from the disease in the area during 1940 :

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
5—14 ...	—	1	2	2	—	1	—	—
15—24 ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—34 ...	—	1	—	1	2	3	—	—
35—44 ...	3	2	—	—	1	3	—	—
45—54 ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	7	6	3	4	3	8	—	1

ALL of the 12 Deaths were Notified Cases.

Specimens of Sputum from suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis are examined at the Cheshire County Council's Laboratory.

During the year 1940, the following Sputums were dealt with :

Total No. of Sputums ... .. 7  
(Negative, Nil. Positive, 7).

Tuberculosis Cases on Register - Comparative Rates :

Year	Estimated Population	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Total All Forms	No. per 1,000 of Population
		M.	F.	M.	F.		
1935 ...	22,470	31	27	50	38	146	6.4
1939 ...	23,440	31	30	51	37	149	6.3
1938 ...	23,340	32	32	52	37	153	6.5
1937 ...	23,220	33	36	58	41	168	7.2
1936 ...	22,903	31	32	52	48	163	7.1



31st December, 1940.

## REPORT OF CANAL BOAT INSPECTOR.

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**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.**

Gentlemen,

The Runcorn Urban District Council became a Registration Authority for the administration of the Canal Boat Acts in 1878, and since that time 1,163 canal boats have been registered.

During 1940 one new registration was approved, and the number of canal boats on our register at the end of the year is 570.

During the year under review 342 canal boats were inspected, of which number ten were found to contravene the Canal Boat Regulations.

The undermentioned contraventions were dealt with:—

Painting of cabins overdue	...	...	6
Leaking decks	...	...	4
Leaking sides of cabins	...	...	2
Defective stoves	...	...	2
Defective woodwork of bunks	....	...	3
Defective food cupboards	...	...	2
Dilapidated Certificate	...	...	1
			20

The 342 canal boats were registered to accommodate 1,307 adults. Two children under 12 years of age are regarded as being equivalent to one adult for the purpose of determining the existence of overcrowding—there has been no case of overcrowding during the year.

There were found on board 444 men, 179 women and 136 children, giving the following percentages:—

Men, 58.50; Women, 23.58; Children, 17.92 per cent.





Table of Comparative Figures.

Year	No. of Boats	Occupants			Percentages		
		Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
1938	404	547	181	166	61.19	20.25	18.56
1939	405	510	190	143	60.50	22.53	16.97
1940	342	444	179	136	58.50	23.58	17.92

It will be seen that the percentage of men is lower and the percentages of women and children higher than during the year 1939.

The number and ages of children found on board are here-with tabulated:—

Under													
1 yr.	1 yr.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
18	8	13	18	9	12	20	2	18	4	5	3	6	136

No case of infectious disease was reported on a canal boat during the year.

Yours obediently,

A. DALE,

Canal Boat Inspector.





